

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Please amend the claims as follows:

1 – 125. (Canceled)

126. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method comprising:

receiving, through a network, a form authored by a form authoring tool and containing one or more input fields;

parsing, independently of the form authoring tool, the received form to identify the input fields contained in the received form;

providing, independently of the form authoring tool, a graphical user interface to enable ~~specification~~ selection and configuration of one or more actions to be carried out in response to a subsequent specific submission of the form to a server by a third party, wherein the graphical user interface includes the identified input fields, wherein the ~~allows for~~ selection of the one or more actions is from a group of two or more types of actions, and wherein the configuration of the one or more actions allows for the customization of the behavior of the selected one or more actions includes the identified input fields, and allows for the behavior of the configured actions to be dependent upon the identified input fields or the data input during the specific submission of the form to the server;

automatically generating, independently of the form authoring tool, program code to carry out the one or more selected and configured actions, wherein the program code is external to the form and independent of the form authoring tool;

receiving the specific submission of the form from the third party at the server; and

executing the program code on the server in response to receipt of the specific submission of the form from the third party to carry out the one or more selected and configured actions.

127. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 126, wherein the form is written in Hyper Text Markup Language (HTML).

128. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 126, wherein the generated program code is a Common Gateway Interface (CGI) program.

129. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 126, further comprising modifying the form such that the specific submission is directed to the generated program code.

130. (Canceled)

131. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 126, further comprising:

automatically determining whether the generated program code is consistent with the form; and

generating an alert if the generated program code is not consistent with the form.

132. (Currently Amended) A server comprising:

a communications device connected to a network to receive a form from a client coupled to the network, the form authored by a form authoring tool and containing one or more input fields;

a memory coupled to the communications device to store the received form;
and

a processor coupled to the memory, wherein the memory stores instructions that, when executed by the processor, provide, independently of the form authoring tool, the functionality of

a parser to parse the received form to identify the input fields contained in the received form;

a graphical user interface generator to create a graphical user interface including the input fields identified by the parser module, and to provide the graphical user interface using the communications device to enable the ~~specification~~ selection and configuration of one or more actions from a group of two or more types of actions, the one or more actions to be carried out upon subsequent submission of a specific instance of the form to the server by a third party, wherein the specific submission of the form to the server from the third party includes data added by the third party into the input fields, wherein the configuration of the one or more actions allows for the customization of the behavior of the selected one or more actions, and wherein the configured actions are dependent upon the identified input fields or the data input during the specific submission of the form to the server;

a code generator to automatically generate program code to carry out the one or more selected and configured actions ~~identified~~, wherein the program code is external to the form; and

a controller to execute the program code on received data from the specific submission of the form.

133. (Previously Presented) The server of claim 132, further comprising a processor, wherein the parser module, the configurer module, and the code generator module are all implemented using the processor.

134. (Previously Presented) The server of claim 132, wherein the form is written in Hyper Text Markup Language (HTML).

135. (Previously Presented) The server of claim 132, wherein the generated program code is a Common Gateway Interface (CGI) program.

136. (Previously Presented) The server of claim 132, further comprising a consistency module to automatically determine whether the generated program code is consistent with the form, wherein the consistency module generates an alert if the program code is not consistent with the form.

137. (Currently Amended) A machine-readable storage medium containing data representing instructions that, when executed by a processor, cause the processor to perform operations comprising:

receiving, through a network, a form authored by a form authoring tool and containing one or more input fields;

parsing, independently of the form authoring tool, the received form to identify the input fields contained in the received form;

providing, independently of the form authoring tool, a graphical user interface to enable ~~specification~~ selection and configuration of one or more actions to be carried out in response to a subsequent specific submission of the form to a server by a third party, wherein the graphical user interface includes the identified input fields, wherein the ~~allows for~~ selection of the one or more actions is from a group of two or more types of actions, wherein the configuration of the one or more actions allows for the customization of the behavior of the selected one or more actions includes the identified input fields, and allows for the behavior of the configured actions to be dependent upon the identified input fields or the data input during the specific submission of the form to the server;

automatically generating, independently of the form authoring tool, program code to carry out the one or more selected and configured actions, wherein the program code is external to the form and independent of the form authoring tool;

receiving the specific submission of the form at the server from the third party; and

executing the program code on the server in response to receipt of the specific submission of the form from the third party to carry out the one or more selected and configured actions.

138. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable medium of claim 137, wherein the form is written in Hyper Text Markup Language (HTML).

139. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable medium of claim 137, wherein the generated program code is a Common Gateway Interface (CGI) program.

140. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable medium of claim 137, wherein the instructions further cause the processor to perform operations comprising associating the generated program code with the form.

141. (Canceled)

142. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable medium of claim 137, wherein the instructions further cause the processor perform operations comprising

automatically determining whether the generated program code is consistent with the form; and

generating an alert if the generated program code is not consistent with the form.

143. (Canceled)

144. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 126 wherein the actions to be performed by the program code include validating that submission data is consistent with constraints for the form input fields as configured in the graphical user interface.

145. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 126 wherein the actions to be performed by the program code include generating one or more quantities computed from data in the specific submission.

146. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 126 wherein the actions to be performed by the program code include generating one or more licenses in response to the specific submission of the form.

147. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 126 wherein the actions to be performed by the program code include generating one or more cookies for each user who submits a specific submission of the form.

148. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 126 wherein the actions to be performed by the program code include emailing one or more elements of data from the specific submission of the form to one or more configured email addresses.

149. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 126 wherein the actions to be performed by the program code include sending an email message to a to an email address that is contained in the specific submission, and including in the email message one or more strings of fixed text, and one or more strings that is dependent on the submission data.

150. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 126 wherein the actions to be performed by the program code include generating one or more response pages to the third party upon receipt of the specific submission of the form, wherein the selection of the response page depends on the value of submission data provided by the third party in one or more of the form's input fields and wherein the response page contains one or more strings of fixed text and one more strings that is dependent on the submission data.

151. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 126 wherein the actions to be performed by the program code include preserving a state of data submitted in one or more fields in the specific submission of the form, passing the state of the data to a second form, wherein the second form has one or more fields in common with the first form, and presenting the second form to the third party in response to the submission of the first form.

152. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 126 wherein the actions to be performed by the program code include logging values for one or more data values submitted in the specific submission of the form.

153. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 152 wherein the values are stored in a database.

154. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 153 wherein the values in each submission are stored in a single row of a table, different submissions corresponding to different rows of the table.

155-167. (Canceled)

168. (New) A computer-implemented method comprising:

receiving, through a network, a form authored by a form authoring tool and containing one or more input fields;

parsing, independently of the form authoring tool, the received form to identify the input fields contained in the received form;

providing, independently of the form authoring tool, a graphical user interface to enable selection and configuration of one or more actions to be carried out in response to a subsequent specific submission of the form to a server by a third party, wherein the graphical user interface includes the identified input fields, wherein the selection of the one or more actions is from a group of two or more types of actions,

wherein the configuration of the one or more actions allows for the customization of the behavior of the selected one or more actions and allows for the behavior of the configured actions to be dependent upon the identified input fields or the data input during the specific submission of the form to the server;

automatically generating, independently of the form authoring tool, program code to carry out the one or more selected and configured actions, wherein the program code is external to the form and independent of the form authoring tool.